SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, this represents a circular turnover. It does not represent small investors' investment in the stock market. It is a circular turnover.

श्री जसवंत सिंह: मैं उसी पर आ रहा था कि अपने आप में जिसे हम स्माल इन्वेस्टर कहते हैं उसकी परिभाषा में है कि जो करीब 20,000 रुपए लगाए, वह स्माल इन्वेस्टर है और जो अधिकृत, लीगल परिभाषा है, उसमें भी 20,000 रुपए है। अब क्या 20,000 रुपए लगाने वालों की संख्या में बढ़ोत्तरी हुई है? मैं आपको इस बारे में आश्वस्त नहीं कर सकता क्योंकि मैं अभी स्वयं उस बारे में आश्वस्त नहीं हूं। 20,000 रुपए की आमदनी वाला व्यक्ति यदि इन्वैस्ट करना चाहता है तो साधारणतया जैसा मैंने अभी बताया कि वह बैंक में जमा करा देता है या पोस्ट ऑफिस में जमा करा देता है। स्टॉक मार्केट में वह कम कराता है। उसमें और पैसा आना चाहिए, इसके लिए सरकार प्रयत्नशील है।

Commencement of production from explored locations

*106. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:#

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new oil and gas explorations both offshore and inland during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that production has not yet begun in the locations explored in the past;

(c) if so, what is the present oil and gas production from these locations; and

(d) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor and by when production is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The details of exploration for hydrocarbons, both onland and offshore, by National Oil Companies (NOCs), Oil and Natural Gas

#Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Santosh Bagrodia.

Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and private/joint venture companies during the last three years (1999—2002), are as under:—

	2D* GLK#/LK##	3D** Square kilometer	Exploratory wells
Onland			
NOCs	11,161	3,286	398
Private/JV companies	1,052	450	6
Offshore			
NOCs	44,675	14,855	73
Private/JV companies	23,702	10,148	21

*2D-Two dimensional survey
**3D-Three dimensional survey
#GLK: Ground Line Kilometer
##LK: Line Kilometer

After discovery of any hydrocarbon find, the field is to be delineated and assessed for its production potential and put on production thereafter, if found techno-economically viable, as such no time frame can be laid down.

(c) The production of crude oil and natural gas for the year 2002-03, as on 31.12.2002, in the country was as under:—

	OIL (MMT)	GAS (BCM)
NOCs	21.767	19.477
Private/JV companies	3.118	3.884
TOTAL:	24.885	23.331

MMT: Million Metric Tonne
BCM: Billion Cubic Meter

(d) Does not arise, in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above, as such no time frame can be laid down.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government has invited bids for exploration of oil and gas under the New Exploration Licensing Policy. If so, how many of them are international operators and who are these operators? And, how much FDIs have they brought in?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, we have had, in the last three years, under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), three rounds, and under the three rounds, we have given 70 blocks for exploration. There are Indian companies, foreign companies as well as joint venture companies. I do not have the list right now. If the hon. Member wants, I can furnish him the list. As it is, there are 23 companies of foreign origin. But, I would say, because of the NELP and other new policies, in the first round of exploration in whatever blocks we have given, we have the discovery by the Reliance-Niko agency or of those agencies in Gurarat or in Rajasthan itself. In all, there have been seven discoveries in the last one year...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: You have not answered as to how much FDI has come.

SHRI RAM NAIK: That would depend on the pace at which the exploration progresses. It will come stage by stage. If the hon. Member is interested in knowing the total amount to be invested for exploration in the Tenth Five Year Plan period, the national oil companies will be investing about Rs. 11,000 crores and the private companies, which include the foreign companies as well, will invest about Rs. 7,500 crores.

DR. L.M. SINGHVI: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government has made an assessment of the recent explorations in Gujarat. And have they formulated a time-table and an estimate of the likely yield as a result of these explorations in Rajasthan?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, the good news is the new discovery itself. Now, once the initial discoveries about further explorations are done, then the quantum would be known. And, based on that quantum, it would be decided as to how these are to be used. Now, this particular thing came out recently, that is, only last month. So, it will take some time to

find out the exact amount which would go into investments. But I must say, it is a very good crude oil doscivered in the Barmer district. This will be beneficial to Rajasthan and a whosoever getting that crude oil.

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि बिहार में तेल की खोज करने की दिशा में क्या इस प्रकार का कोई सर्वेक्षण हुआ है? अगर हुआ है तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है? महोदय, कोसी और गंगा बड़ी-बड़ी नदियां हैं। क्या इनके बेसिनों में तेल की खोज करने की सरकार की कोई मंशा है, अगर है तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार को क्या कहना है?

श्री राम नाईक: सभापति जी, वैसे यह सवाल मुख्य प्रश्न से संबंधित नहीं है। लेकिन मैं मोटे तौर पर यह कह सकता हूं कि बिहार में तेल मिलने की ज्यादा संभावना नहीं है। मैं एक्ज़ैक्ट डिटेल्स निकालकर माननीय सदस्य को भिजवा दूंगा।

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: तेल की खोज की गई है या नहीं की गई ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री राम नाईक: वही तो मैं कह रहा हूं कि मैं ओवरऑल पोजीशन ही बता सकता हूं।

Low foreign investment by US

*107. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:†
SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Business Houses are reluctant to invest in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaosns therefor;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government propose to make certain changes so that US businessmen are ready to invest in India?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

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†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri P. Prabhakar Reddy.